

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:953
ANSWERED ON:20.08.2007
AGEING FLEET OF IAF
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of fleet position of Indian Air Force (IAF) as on date;
- (b) whether most of the aircraft are ageing and they have to be retired from the fleet shortly; and
- (c) if so, the details of proposed retirement plan of the IAF fleet?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) IAF has a variety of aircraft to cater to various missions. These include fighter aircraft, transport aircraft, helicopters, trainer aircraft etc. of different kinds and for different roles.

(b)&(c): The life of military aircraft is specified by `Total Technical Life` (TTL) which is a combination of flying hours and calendar life. The vast majority of IAF aircraft currently in service have a considerable life left before approaching TTL. Upon completion of assigned technical life, aircraft are progressively phased out. This is a continuous process.